

ABSTRACT

A device (41) for positioning a joinery fastener (74) in a joinery member (33) for later use in forming a joinery assembly. The fastener positioning device (41) includes a feed magazine (82) formed for feeding joinery fasteners (74) to a gripping apparatus (83). The gripping apparatus (83) is positioned to receive the fasteners (74) and is further adapted to releasably grip individual fasteners (74) at a position (103) below the fastener head (86) to hold the fasteners (74) in a known and controlled, indexed relation to the gripping apparatus (83). The gripping apparatus is movable between a fastener gripping position to a fastener placement position while the pointed end (88) of the fastener (74) remains in indexed relation, and a placement arm (92) is formed to urge the fastener (74) from the gripping apparatus (83) and into interference fit with the joinery member (33). A joinery member (33) having a fastener (74) mounted in interference fit with a bore (68) therein is also disclosed, as is a preferred form of pocket screw fastener (74), a fastener-receiving bore (68) with an elongated transverse cross section and a process for automatically positioning fasteners (74) in joinery members (33) for later joining to another member.